

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 813

S E C R E T BRASILIA 2479

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STADIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: TECH, ENRG, PARM, MNUC, BR, GW, PFOR

SUBJ: PRESIDENTIAL NUCLEAR POLICY STATEMENT

REF: STATE 67973

1. EMBASSY APPRECIATES OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT ON PROPOSED TALKING POINTS AND MODALITIES OF BRIEFING GOB ON PRESIDENT'S NUCLEAR POLICY STATEMENT.

2. OUR IMPRESSION FROM OUR CONTACTS IS THAT GOB IS ALREADY AWARE OF THE GENERAL THRUST OF THE FORTHCOMING STATEMENT FROM REPORTING OF ITS EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON (E.G., CHANGES IN US BREEDER REACTOR PROGRAM). ALSO, THE US PROPOSALS MADE TO THE GOB IN CONNECTION WITH THE DISCUSSIONS ON THE FRG-BRAZILIAN AGREEMENT, WHILE CONSISTENT WITH THE GLOBAL STATEMENT, GO IN SPECIFICITY AND DETAIL CONSIDERABLY BEYOND SOME OF THE NECESSARILY MORE GENERAL LANGUAGE OF THE TALKING POINTS. CONVERSELY, THE GREAT MERIT OF THE STATEMENT, AT THIS PARTICULAR JUNCTURE OF US-BRAZILIAN RELATIONS, WILL BE THAT IT WILL SET FORTH FOR THE BRAZILIAN GOVERNMENT AND PUBLIC A GLOBAL FRAMEWORK, FOR THE NONPROLIFERATION ISSUE (WITH REPERCUSSIONS ON THE NUCLEAR ENERGY PRO-

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GRAMS OF MANY COUNTRIES) WHICH HAS APPEARED TO MANY BRAZILIAN EYES AS ESSENTIALLY A BILATERAL OR TRILATERAL ISSUE. NEVERTHELESS, GOB MAY ALREADY BE MOTIVATED TO A RESERVED STANCE ON THE APPROACH REPRESENTED IN THE STATEMENT: FOR EXAMPLE, IN MARCH 28 DISCUSSION WITH ECONOMIC/COMMERCIAL COUNSELOR, AMBASSADOR CABRAL DE MELLO (HEAD OF THE FOREIGN MINISTRY'S ECONOMIC DEPARTMENT)

COMMENTED ON IMPORTANCE OF BREEDER REACTOR FOR BRAZIL'S LONGER-RANGE NUCLEAR ENERGY PROGRAM, A VIEW WHICH IS OF COURSE NOT NEW IN BRAZILIAN THINKING.

3. AS NOTED IN SEPTTEL, WE BELIEVE PRESENTATION SHOULD BE MADE AT SOMEWHAT LOWER LEVEL THAN FOREIGN MINISTER, TO KEEP IT CLEARLY SEPARATE FROM THE PROPOSAL ON SPECIFIC NEXT STEPS TO CONTINUE DISCUSSIONS WITH GOB ON FRG-BRAZILIAN NUCLEAR ACCORD. WE BELIEVE A PRESENTATION BY THE ECON/COMMERCIAL COUNSELOR TO AMBASSADOR CABRAL DE MELLO WOULD BE THE APPROPRIATE LEVEL; IT WOULD BE MADE ON MARCH 31 OR APRIL 1, NOW THAT THE AMBASSADOR'S APPROACH ON NEXT STEPS HAS BEEN MADE, AND ONCE DEPARTMENT'S AUTHORIZATION OF THESE CHANGES HAS BEEN RECEIVED.

4. WE REQUEST AUTHORITY TO MAKE THE FOLLOWING CHANGES IN THE PROPOSED TEXT:

(A) PARA 3(A), LAST SENTENCE: IN PLACE OF "WEAPONS USABLE MATERIAL" SUBSTITUTE "MATERIALS USABLE FOR NUCLEAR EXPLOSIVES". REASON: CONSISTENCY WITH EARLIER LINE FIVE PHRASING; ALSO, GOB INSISTS OFFICIALLY THAT IT DOES NOT SEEK NUCLEAR WEAPONS.

(B) PARA 3 (B), SECOND SENTENCE: ADD "GLOBAL" BETWEEN "FOR" AND "PEACE". REASON: EMPHASIS.

(C) PARA 3, C (L11), DELETE "ALTERNATIVE". REASON: BRAZILIAN SENSITIVITIES OVER WHAT HAS BECOME CODE WORD FOR BRAZILIAN SIDE IN US-BRAZILIAN TALKS; WORD IS NOT NEEDED. DELETE "WEAPONS USABLE" AND MAKE SAME SUBSTITUTION
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AS IN (A) ABOVE.

(D) PARA 3(D): DELETE "NEEDS AND MINIMIZE" AND SUBSTITUTE THE PHRASE "NEEDS, AND, AS PART OF THIS, HOW TO ASSURE MULTILATERALLY THE SUPPLY OF FUEL FOR NUCLEAR POWER PROGRAMS WHILE MINIMIZING". REASON: MORE SPECIFICITY AS TO US PURPOSES.

(E) PARA 3(E): FIRST SENTENCE: IN PLACE OF "WEAPONS" SUBSTITUTE "EXPLOSIVES CAPABILITY". REASON: SAME AS

(A). SECOND SENTENCE: DELETE WORD "ALTERNATIVE".

(F) PARA 3(G), THIRD SENTENCE: SUBSTITUTE "EMBASSY" FOR "US AMBASSADOR". REASON: WE DO NOT WISH TO PRESCRIBE LEVEL IN VIEW OF LEVEL OF EMBASSY'S PRESENTATION.

5. OTHER COMMENTS: (A) REGARDING THE PHRASE IN PARA 3(E), SECOND SENTENCE: IF ASKED ABOUT REPROCESSING, WE WOULD PROPOSE TO SAY THAT THE EXAMINATION OF FUEL REPROCESSING TECHNOLOGIES IS ENCOMPASSED IN THE PHRASE "NON-SENSITIVE FUEL CYCLES" AND SUCH AN EXAMINATION WOULD BE PART OF THE INTERNATIONAL NUCLEAR

FUEL CYCLE EVALUATION PROGRAM PROPOSED BY THE STATE-
MENT. ARE THERE OTHER SENSITIVE STAGES IN THE
FUEL CYCLE THAT SHOULD BE SPECIFICALLY MEN-
TIONED IN THAT CONNECTION? (B) PARA 3(F): WE ASSUME
"COMPREHENSIVE INTERNATIONAL SAFEGUARDS" IMPLIES FULL
SCOPE SAFEGUARDS. (C) PARA C(F) IS ONE OF THE SEC-
TIONS THAT THE GOB, IN OUR JUDGMENT, WILL EXAMINE VERY
CLOSELY. WE THINK IT IS ESSENTIAL TO ADDRESS THE QUES-
TION OF US FULFILLMENT OF NPT OBLIGATIONS. AS THE
DEPARTMENT IS AWARE, THE GOB HAS CRITICIZED THE NU-
CLEAR WEAPONS STATES FOR NOT FULFILLING THEIR NPT
OBLIGATIONS. NOT EVEN TO MENTION THE US POSITION ON
THE FULFILLMENT OF NPT OBLIGATIONS WOULD SIGNIFICANTLY
WEAKEN THE CREDIBILITY OF THE PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT
IN BRAZILIAN EYES. REQUEST APPROPRIATE LANGUAGE IF
FORTHCOMING STATEMENT PERMITS.

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6. ADDITIONAL TALKING POINTS. WE ALSO PROPOSE, AT THE
END, TO ADD THE FOLLOWING POINTS:

-- WE RECOGNIZE THAT ON CERTAIN SPECIFICS USG PRO-
POSALS MADE TO THE GOB HAVE ALREADY GONE BEYOND THE FOREGOING
POINTS, ALTHOUGH THESE SPECIFIC PROPOSALS ARE FULLY
CONSISTENT WITH THESE POINTS.

-- WE WISH TO EMPHASIZE THAT THE US IS SEEKING TO
FIND A NON-DISCRIMINATORY APPROACH TO THE PROBLEM
OF ASSURING CONSUMER COUNTRIES NEEDED NUCLEAR FUEL
CONSISTENT WITH THE OBJECTIVE OF ARRESTING THE WORLD-
WIDE SPREAD OF SENSITIVE TECHNOLOGY.
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